





G. O.

*Head-Quarters, Spanish-Town, }  
Jan. 30, 1797.*

# REGULATIONS

TO BE OBSERVED IN THE

REGIMENTAL HOSPITALS

OF THE SEVERAL CORPS

IN

JAMAICA.

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## REGULATIONS, &c.

IT has been found by experience, that the sick recover faster, and are under better regulations, in regimental than in general hospitals. Besides the ill consequences of crowding a number of men of various diseases, and from different regiments, into one room, there are other circumstances of greater moment, that evidently evince why regimental hospitals, where the service will admit, are to be preferred to general ones: In the former, little experience enables the surgeons to acquire a knowledge of the constitutions, dispositions, and prevailing diseases of their patients; an emulation is excited to have their hospitals better regulated, and the sick list more reduced, than those of other regiments; while the interest the commanding officer takes in the welfare of his men, and sick in particular, which from a personal knowledge often extends to the inferior officers and attendants in the hospital, all contribute to place the sick of a regiment on as respectable a footing as their situations will admit, and are advantages that cannot be obtained in a general hospital.

It was on this principle that regimental hospitals were established in Jamaica, and they are subject to the following regulations.

The medical staff consists of a staff surgeon, an hospital store-keeper, and a certain proportion of hospital and island assistant surgeons : These, with the regimental surgeons and their assistants, form the medical officers of the forces in Jamaica.

All the regimental hospitals are under the immediate direction of their respective surgeons, though subject to the general direction of the surgeon to the forces ; who inspects them as often as he thinks necessary, sees that every part of the hospital regulations have been observed, ascertains the wants, and attends to the just complaints of the men, assists with his advice the attending surgeons, and proposes to the commander-in-chief such further regulations as he thinks may conduce to the good of the sick.

The surgeon to the forces having under his direction the hospital and island assistant surgeons, who are intended by their assistance to lessen the duty of the regimental surgeons, he uses his discretion in attaching them to the different regiments ; adding or diminishing to the staff of each, in proportion to the number of sick, or to the urgency of the service, and informs the commanding officer of all such changes.

During the time the hospital and island assistant surgeons are attached to a regiment, they are subject to the orders of its commanding-officer, and receive from the regiment whatever island or extra allowances (bat and forage excepted) to which they may be entitled.

The island assistant surgeons who are appointed by the commander-in-chief, are intended as auxiliaries to the staff, where there is a deficiency of medical attendants, and where the sick are very numerous; or when a regiment is detached, to take charge or to assist in taking charge of the sick of those detachments.

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#### REGULATIONS TO BE OBSERVED IN THE REGIMENTAL HOSPITALS IN JAMAICA.

1st, THE hospital to be regularly visited by the attending surgeon three times a-day, and oftener if necessary: At the first visit the surgeon is to enter into a day-book a prescription of such medicines as he intends to administer to his patients; he is to correctly fill up the table for the distribution of diet of such men, and sign it; and with the table of diet, he is to see it hung in the most conspicuous part of the ward for the inspection of the whole of the sick, who are to be granted nothing by the non-commissioned officer but what is expressed in the diet-table.

2d, In the treatment of the sick, whether it regards the ordering of medicine, diet, or wine, or the discharging of men from the hospital, the attending surgeon's power to be absolute, and no officer whatever (the surgeon of the forces excepted) is to interfere with this part of the surgeon's duty.

3d, Officers commanding regiments will order the attending surgeon to give them in a weekly return or statement of hospital expenditures, and corresponding diet tables, both signed by the surgeon; and at the end of every fourth week, the commanding-officers, and the surgeon to the forces, to give in a report to the commander-in-chief of the state of the hospitals, whether regular or otherwise, and such general remarks as they may think will conduce to the good of the sick.

4th, The surgeon to give in to the commanding-officer a weekly return of the sick, stating the men's names, companies, diseases, state or recovery, and such other remarks as the occurrences of the week may have furnished.

5th, A non-commissioned officer for the day to collect the sick reports from the different companies, and with the sick in the barracks to attend the hospital every morning at the time it is visited by the surgeon; he is there to give in the reports, and to take back to the barracks such patients as the surgeon may direct not to be received into the hospital; he is likewise to carry to the hospital,



## HOSPITAL REGULATIONS.

any man that may fall sick during the day, and immediately afterwards report him to the surgeon, who will direct whether he is to be detained in the hospital or returned to the barracks; and the non-commissioned officer for the day is to consider himself under the orders of the surgeon in every thing that concerns the sick.

6th, No soldier labouring under the most trifling symptom of fever or dysentery to remain in the barrack on any account whatever; and any man detected in concealing his complaints, and not reporting himself to the hospital non-commissioned officer for the day, is to be immediately confined for disobedience of orders, and reported to the commanding-officer.

7th, Every man on his being received into the hospital, is to give up to the charge of a non-commissioned officer of his company all his accoutrements and clothing except his flannel jacket, trowsers, and shirts, the former are not to be returned to him until he is discharged from the hospital; he is likewise to be immediately washed all over with soap and warm water, put to bed, and placed on low diet until otherwise directed by the surgeon.

8th, Every hospital to have a sentry at its door, who is to receive orders to permit no person to enter but those concerned with the hospital, the staff, and officers of the regiment; he is to be particularly careful in preventing liquor or any thing improper

from being carried into the hospital, nor is he to permit any patient to go out (to the necessary excepted) without a ticket of leave from the attending surgeon.

9th, Every hospital to have an honest, diligent, and active sergeant, such as may be approved of by the surgeon of the forces, who is to have the immediate direction of the sick, and in the absence of the surgeon to be punctually obeyed in all his orders by every other person in the ward; and as the duty entrusted to his charge is of the utmost importance to the sick, and without his diligence and abilities the best medical efforts may prove abortive, it is expected the surgeon of the forces will be extremely cautious how he approves of a person recommended to this duty, and that he will previously enquire into his character and strictly examine his abilities for this undertaking.

10th, A corporal is also to be appointed, whose particular duty is to inspect the orderly men and pioneers, and to be accountable for their good conduct; he is therefore to go round at the periods fixed by the surgeon for the administering of medicines and nourishment, and to see that the nurse, orderly men and pioneers, punctually give to the patients what has been directed by the surgeon; he is likewise to see that the ward is kept clean and the bed pans emptied out, by the orderly men and pioneers immediately after they have been used.

11th, The corporal is to attend to seeing the ward well scraped and swept by the orderly men and pioneers every morning early, and that it is afterwards well fumigated with gunpowder wetted in vinegar, and thrown over heated iron placed in different parts of the ward ; he is likewise to prevent the floor from being dirtied by the patients spitting on it, &c. &c. or by any means rendering the ward in the least degree offensive.

12th, The sergeant is to see that every patient, capable of doing it or having it done, is to have his face and hands washed, and his hair combed and tied, before the surgeon visits the hospital ; and those men who are able to sit up are regularly to fold up their bedding, and to sweep under their beds, every morning by six o'clock ; they are likewise to separate their bedding, to air, two hours every day : He is also to prevent irregularities in the hospital, such as gaming, swearing, or refusing his or the nurse's directions.

As quietness and rest are absolutely required in an hospital, great care is to be taken that as little noise as possible be allowed at any time, but particularly at night ; every man must therefore be in his bed by seven o'clock, and no conversation whatever be permitted after that time.

13th, The sergeant is to direct the wards to be regularly well washed every other day (unless on

therwise directed by the surgeon) and previous to the beds being replaced, to see the rooms well fumigated in the manner directed in article no. 11; he is likewise to prevent any kind of incumbrance to be hung on the walls, or placed in the windows of the ward, that can in the least degree intercept a circulation of air, or serve as a receptacle for infection.

14th. The Lead non-commissioned officer is to be particularly attentive to the frequent change of linen and bedding of such patients as have fevers, dysentery, or any diseases of an infectious tendency; and that the soiled linen and bedding, after having been previously washed in water, be fumigated with gunpowder as above, and well dried and aired before they are again used or put by for use; and the surgeon will use his discretion, consistent with economy or the welfare of the men, in destroying such of the men's clothes or bedding as might contribute to a communication of infection.

A decent sober woman to be employed as a nurse, whose duty will be to prepare the flaps and comforts for the sick, and to occasionally assist in administering medicines, &c. &c.

16th, Every hospital to be furnished with at least four orderly men and three pioneers, at the discretion of the attending surgeon. In cases of fever, where the sick require particular attention, an ex-

an orderly man from the company to which the patient belongs (and if practicable his comrade) to be allowed to attend until he is pronounced out of danger. The duty of the orderly men and pioneers (one of the latter of which is likewise to cook for the hospital) is to officiate as nurses, by attending the sick, administering their medicines and nourishment, and to keep the ward clean.

17th, The officer for the day is to visit the hospital at the hour fixed by the commanding-officer, and report to him any complaint or irregularity that may have occurred in the hospital, or where in any instance these regulations have not been attended to.

18th, The sergeant of the barrack or hospital guard, attended by the head non-commissioned officer of the hospital, to go every morning round the ward, to call a roll and see that every man is in his ward; to do the same at night, and report to the attending surgeon the following morning such men as were found absent, or whether the hospital was regular and in good order.

19th, In those regiments whose hospitals have two rooms, the dysenteric and feverish patients to be kept in a separate ward from the surgical patients and convalescents.

Every regiment to have a room in the barracks appropriated to the accommodation of such con-

valefcents in the fick hospital, whole ftate of health will admit of their being placed on full diet. This hospital to be regularly vifited by the furgeon once, twice, or oftener in the day, as circumftances may require.

A non-commissioned officer to be appointed to the particular charge of the convalefcant hoſpital, and one orderly man and a pioneer to be alfo attached to it, to keep it clean and aſſiſt in the ward: Such of the patients whole ſtrength will allow, are likewiſe to be employed in the ſame duty. The convalefcents to receive their diet from the fick hospital, and in every other particular to be under the ſame regulations as are obſerved in that hoſpital.

20th, The ſurgeon of the forces is particularly directed, in his viſits to the different hospitals, to ſee that every part of the above regulations have been ſtrictly attended to, to examine the quality of the articles iſſued to the ſick, to find out if the men have any juſt cauſe of complaint, to ſee that the diet-tables are kept in the hoſpitals for the inſpection of the men, the hoſpital accounts kept regular, and to report to the commander-in-chief ſuch regiments as have not attended to the regulations, for which the commanding-officers muſt be ſolely reſponſible.

The above regulations after having received the commanding-officer's ſignature, are to be paſſed,

on a board, and constantly hung up in the ward of each hospital. It is particularly expected that none of the hospital tables will be detached by any person whatever, nor taken down, but by the surgeon or serjeant; the latter of whom will explain the allowance ordered to such patients who are not in a situation to read the table for the distribution of diet.

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#### FURTHER REGULATIONS TO BE OBSERVED IN THE HOSPITALS.

THE serjeant of the hospital, under the direction of the surgeon, is to keep a book wherein he is to enter the names of the men and periods when received into the hospital, their ages, diseases, when discharged, or dead. From this book (see table no. 1) the surgeon makes out the monthly return of the sick (no. 2), which is sent in by the surgeon of each regiment to the surgeon of the forces, who from these forms a general return, one copy of which he gives in to the commander-in-chief, and transmits another to the army medical board.

When invalids or convalescents are to be sent to Europe, the surgeon to the forces (if practicable) is to be consulted, and a return (no. 3) sent to him by the surgeon of each regiment, of such men as are considered proper subjects for an European climate, or to be discharged the service.

The mode adopted in Jamaica for supplying the



hospitals with medicines, necessaries, and comforts, is as follows.—

The military hospital store, of which one of the assistant surgeons has the charge, is under the direction of the surgeon to the forces: From this store he supplies, at his discretion, the different regiments with bedding and hospital utensils.

In consequence of the great sickness that prevails in the West-Indies, and the difficulty of procuring medicines at a moderate rate, the surgeon of each regiment is allowed by government half-yearly a supply of particular articles (no. 4), and he furnishes his other wants of that nature out of his medicine money. The surgeon to the forces, however, where regiments are particularly sickly, or where the supplies have not been regularly sent out, takes upon himself sometimes to assist the surgeons with medicines out of the public store, taking receipts for what he issues, and sending a statement of it to the medical board, who either approve of those indulgencies to the surgeons, or direct the apothecary general to charge their agents with them at prime cost.

Extract from a resolution passed the assembly 21st December 1796, relating to the military hospitals in Jamaica:

“AND BE IT ENACTED, That the receiver-general do, out of the monies to arise by virtue of this or any act to be passed this session, pay to the order of the commander-in-chief the sum of six shillings <sup>6s</sup> <sub>6d</sub> <sup>6d</sup> <sub>6d</sub>



and eight pence for each man stated in the respective quarterly returns to be made of the troops quartered in this island on its establishment, as a fund to provide necessaries for the sick, in addition to their own regimental hospital funds."

In consequence of the above, the following plan is to be adopted for sustaining the hospitals and supplying the sick with comforts, and is to commence on the 25th January 1797.—

The health rations are to be drawn for the sick weekly by the quartermaster of each regiment, who will dispose of them to the best advantage, agreeable to the orders of the commanding-officer, and place the amount in the hands of the paymaster.

A sum not less than one shilling and eight-pence per week (at the discretion of the commanding-officers) to be deducted from each sick man's pay by the paymasters. This, with the value of the health ration, and the sum of one dollar per quarter for every man who has been effective upon the monthly returns, and which sum will be paid by the receiver-general to the paymasters every quarter agreeable to the three monthly returns, is to form the hospital fund of each regiment; out of which all the wants of the sick (medicines excepted) are to be supplied, and it is to be appropriated to no other use whatever.

The commanding-officers will appoint proper persons to act as purveyors, who are to supply the

hospitals with provisions and comforts agreeable to the demands of the surgeons; to whom they are to account for the expenditure, which is to be entered into a book for the inspection of the commanding-officers.

Hospital regulation, no. 1, which regards the distribution of the diet for the sick, to be punctually observed. See no. 5, 6.

On the back of each diet-table (no. 5) the purveyors are to express the proportions, and charges, of the different articles expended during the day, which they are to present to the surgeons for their approbation and signature. The amount of each day's hospital expence is to be stated on the back of the weekly returns of the sick (no. 7), with the surgeon's signature, and by him given in to the commanding-officers; who, after comparing it with the daily diet-tables, will, on approving, give the purveyors an order on the paymasters for the amount.

The paymasters are to keep a regular account of monies received and paid by them on account of the hospitals, which, with the purveyor's books of account, are to be open to the inspection of the surgeon of the forces, who in his monthly report to the commander-in-chief, will point out those regiments in which the above order has not been duly observed, or where the sick have not been furnished with articles of the best quality.

*(Signed)*

A. BUTTER, D. A. G.

T A B L E, No. 1.

Form of Hospital Day-Book of the Regiment of

[illegible]

# TABLE, No. II.

Monthly Return of the Sick of

Head-Quarters,

24th of

1860

DISEASES.		Where ac- commodated.	Admitted on the Return.	Discharged on the Return.	Died.
Names.	Age.				
Fever.					
Epidemic Colds.					
Dysentery.					
Dropsy.					
Rheumatism.					
Diseases of the Eyes.					
Wounds & Ulcers.					
Ruptures.					
Venereal Com- plaints.					
Disorders of the Urinary Passage.					
Gits.					
Gonorrhea.					
Furuncles.					
Fractures.					
Dislocations.					
Contusions.					
Convulsions.					
When first returned.					
Hospital.					
Barracks or Quarters.					
Head-Quarters.					
Particulars.					
Sent out for service from Disease.					
Admission on the Return.					
Discharge on the Return.					
Died.					

T A B L E, No. III.

Return of Invalids and Convalescents of the  
Regiment of                      recommended to be sent  
to Europe.

[illegible]

# TABLE, No. IV.

Invoice of Medicines, being the Half-Yearly Supply for a Regiment in Jamaica.

	LIB:	OUNC:		LIB:	OUNC:
Antimon: Tartarizat: -	-	4	Fior: Sulphur: -	2	8
Calomel: ppt. - - -	-	4	Kali ppt. - - -	-	12
Cantharis: Pulv: - - -	1		Natron Vitriolat: -	65	
Confect: Aromatic: - -	-	8	Ol: Menth: Pip: -	-	4
Cort: Peruvian: Opt: Pulv:	65		Opium Purificat: -	-	8
Creta ppt. - - - -	5		Pulv: Rad: Ipecac:	-	8
Elix: Vitriol: Acid: - -	-	8	- - - Jalap: -	-	8
Extract: Colocynth: Comp:	-	4	- - - Rhabarb: -	1	
Fior: Chamæm: - - -	10		- - - Scill: -	-	1
- - - - - Pulv:	1		Tinctur: Opii -	-	8

# TABLE, No. V.

Daily Distribution of Diet for the Sick of the  
Regiment of

179

REGIMENT OF															EXTRAORDINARIES.															Extraordinaries varied during the day.
Men's Names.		Diet.		Wine.		Rum.	Brandy.	Cyder.	Porter.	Bottles Spruce.	Mutton.	Fish.	Chicken Broth.	Tea.																
		Toll.	Middle.	1 ew.	Pints.										Half pints.	Gills.	Half gills.	Pints.	Half pints.	Quarts.	Pints.									
																						Wh.	Port.	Gills.	Half gills.	Gills.	Half gills.			
Total,																														

(signed)

Surgeon.

The following Table of Daily Expenditure to be put on the  
back of the above.

		L.	s.	d.
Bread,	lb.			
Rice,	do.			
Sugar,	do.			
Beef,	do.			
Mutton,	do.			
Lard,	do.			
Colicte,	gills,			
Wine,	pints,			
Porter,	bottles			
Cyder,	do.			
Rum,	pints,			
Brandy,	do.			
Vinegar,	quarts,			
Milk,	do.			
Fish,	lb.			
Fowl,				
Candles,	lb.			
Oil,	pints,			
Vegetables,				
Total,				

Approved,

Surgeon.

# TABLE, No. VI.

## Table of Diet.

D I E T.	BREAKFAST.	D I N N E R.	S U P P E R.
F U L L.	Half a pound bread, with a pint of corn or rice gruel, or coffee with sugar.	Half a pound of beef, and half a pound of bread; the beef to be made into soup, with cheap vegetables.	The same as for breakfast without the bread.
M I D D L E O R H A L F.	Half a pint of rice or corn gruel, or coffee with sugar.	A pint of beef soup, and four ounces of bread.	The same as for breakfast.
L o w.	Mint or sage tea, or any thin water gruel with sugar.	Half a pint of panado, fago, or rice gruel, with or without wine, as directed by the surgeon, who will vary the above proportion of diet as he sees necessary.	The same as for breakfast.

†† Mutton, Fish, Chicken broth, Wine, Porter, Cyder, Brandy, Tea, &c. &c. will be allowed to such particular patients, whose cases the attending surgeon may think will require such indulgencies, and this will be expressed in the table for the regulation and distribution of Diet.



TABLE, No. VII.

Weekly Return of the Sick of  
of

Regiment  
179

Troop or Company.	Men's Names.	Diseases.	No of days in Hospital.	Recovering or not.	Died during the week.	General Remarks.

	No.
In hospital last return, - -	
Admitted during the week, -	
Discharged, - - - - -	
Dead, - - - - -	
Remains in hospital, - - -	

Surgeon.

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## Weekly Statement of Hospital Expenses:

Day of the Month.	Day of the Week.	L.	s.	d.
	Monday, - - - - -			
	Tuesday, - - - - -			
	Wednesday, - - - - -			
	Thursday, - - - - -			
	Friday, - - - - -			
	Saturday, - - - - -			
	Sunday, - - - - -			
	Total, - - - - -			

*Surgeon.*

Med. Hist.  
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